

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2511 - HB 2679

March 9, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Beginning September 1, 2018, creates a new trial court judge in the 16th judicial district and a new trial court judge in the 20th judicial district. Beginning September 1, 2020, removes a trial court judge from the 21st judicial district and removes a trial court judge from the 30th judicial district.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures – \$546,100/FY18-19
\$595,800/FY19-20
\$99,300/FY20-21**

Assumptions:


- Beginning September 1, 2018, the proposed legislation creates an additional trial court in the 16th and 20th judicial districts. To partially fund the new judgeships, the proposed legislation removes a trial court in the 21st and 30th judicial districts beginning September 1, 2020.
- The proposed legislation will result in the courts incurring the costs of two additional judges in FY18-19, FY19-20, and FY20-21.
- The annual salary and benefits for a trial judge are \$214,910 [\$176,377 salary + (\$176,377 x 0.1177) benefits + (\$128,400 maximum x 0.062) social security + (\$176,377 x 0.0145) Medicare + \$7,254.96 insurance]. The increase for two judges is \$429,820 (\$214,910 x 2).
- Additionally, each judge position will require annual funding for supplies, travel, rent, utilities, legal subscriptions, etc., in the amount of \$27,000 per year, and one-time funding of \$23,000 for furniture, computer, software, books, etc.
- Two judges will require \$54,000 (\$27,000 x 2) in recurring funding for supplies, travel, rent, utilities, legal subscriptions, etc. and \$46,000 (\$23,000 x 2) in one-time funding for furniture, computer, software, books, etc.
- The courts will not be created until September 1, 2018.
- The expenditures relative to the two additional judges in FY18-19 are \$449,167 {[((\$429,820 + \$54,000) x 0.8333] + \$46,000 one-time}.
- The expenditures relative to the two additional judges in FY19-20 are \$483,820 (\$429,820 + \$54,000).
- The expenditures relative to the two additional judges in FY20-21 are \$80,653 [(\$429,820 + \$54,000) x 0.1667].

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- Each judge has a legal secretary who receives a salary of \$39,800.
- The recurring salary and benefits for a legal secretary are \$54,784 [\$39,800 salary + (\$39,800 x 0.1177) benefits + (\$39,800 x 0.0765) FICA + \$7,254.96 insurance]. The increase for two secretaries is \$109,568 (\$54,784 x 2).
- Additionally, the legal secretary position will require recurring funding for travel estimated to be \$1,200 per year, and one-time funding of \$1,800 for furniture, computer, software, etc.
- Two secretaries will require \$2,400 (\$1,200 x 2) in recurring funding for travel and \$3,600 (\$1,800 x 2) in one-time funding for furniture, computer, software, etc.
- The expenditures relative to the secretary in FY18-19 are estimated to be \$96,903 $\{[(\$109,568 + \$2,400) \times 0.8333] + \$3,600\}$.
- The expenditures relative to the two secretaries in FY19-20 are \$111,968 (\$109,568 + \$2,400).
- The expenditures relative to the two secretaries in FY20-21 are \$18,665 $\{[(\$109,568 + \$2,400) \times 0.1667]\}$.
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY18-19 is \$546,070 (\$449,167 + \$96,903).
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY19-20 is \$595,788 (\$483,820 + \$111,968).
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY20-21 is \$99,318 (\$80,653 + \$18,665).
- Beginning September 1, 2020, this bill requires the removal of a trial court judge from each the 21st judicial district and the 30th judicial district. It is assumed there will be decreases in state expenditures associated with the removal of these judges which are similar amounts to the increases in state expenditures incurred by the two new judges for the 16th and 20th districts. Therefore, any net impact after September 1, 2020 is considered not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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